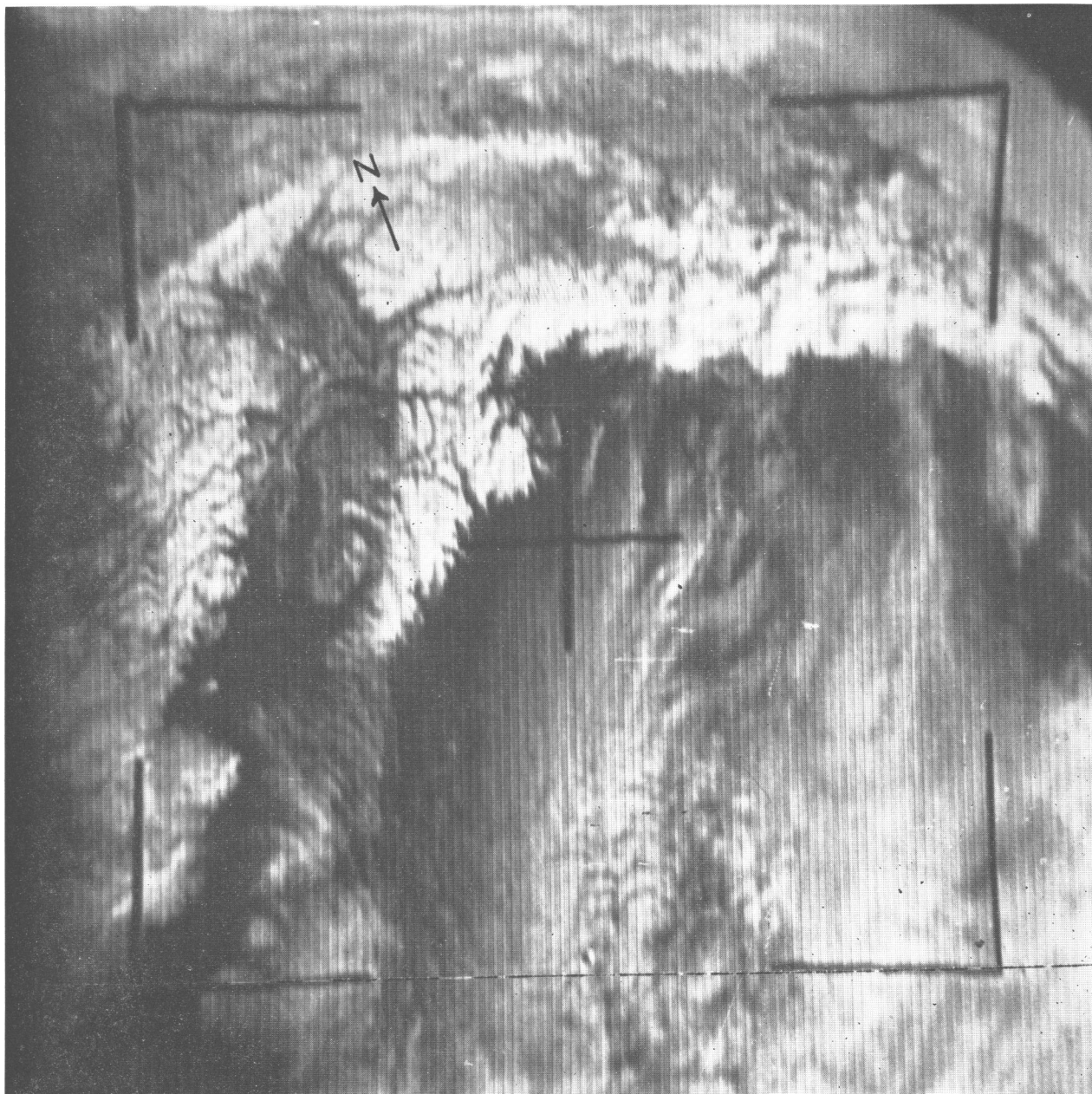


## PICTURE OF THE MONTH



This TIROS V photograph of the area around the Gulf of Alaska (pass 3403/3403, camera 1, frame 7) was taken on February 11, 1963, at 2159 GMT and was received at Wallops Island, Va., via tape mode. Local Alaskan time was approximately noon. The Kenai Peninsula lies just to the left of the center-cross fiducial mark, and Kodiak Island is near the lower left fiducial mark.

The snow-covered higher elevations of the Kenai Peninsula and southern Alaska are clearly visible in this photograph. However, the skies were not completely clear at the time; many surface land stations in the area were reporting variable amounts of altocumulus and cirrus

clouds. The heavily-forested lower elevations surrounding Cook Inlet, which is just west of the Kenai Peninsula, also are visible and appear as an intermediate shade of gray. Cook Inlet itself is very dark.

At the time of this photograph there was a general offshore flow in the lower troposphere, and the water areas near the coast appear dark and relatively cloud-free. The cloudiness increases southward over the Gulf of Alaska and is believed to be mainly in the low levels over that region. Toward the southeastern corner of the picture the cloudiness appears quite thick and perhaps is multi-layered.